SPORTS / A35

'Boom Boom' Bautista TKOs Brazil's Andrade in fourth round



ACROSS / A18

Guimaras fishers to get paid for lost income

WORLD / A30

3 car bomb attacks kill 51 in Baghdad

MEDAL TALLY / A32

SPORTS / A31

Dionisio, Molina bow to superior foes in Asian Games

Docs say Mike Arroyo angioplasty successful

By Christine O. Avendaño

WITH NO LESS THAN PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-Arroyo and her children watching through a glass panel, First Gentleman Jose Miguel "Mike" Arroyo yesterday underwent an angioplasty, a medical procedure to relieve a clogged artery in his heart.

The procedure, which took place at St. Luke's Medical Center, began after 7 a.m. ... took less

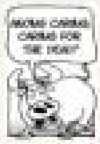
DOCS A4

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
Monday, December 4, 2006 ★★ 7 sections / Vol. 21 / No. 359 P18

Asean caring community? GMA faces tough sell

MANILA'S PROMOTION of Southeast Asia as a compassionate community and the Philippines as a ... could prove to be a hard sell when the country hosts the region's

ASEAN A4



State of nat'l calamity



CARLITO Valderama cries as earth is shoveled on the coffin of his wife Editha during a mass burial near the slope of Mayon volcano. Officials say Supertyphoon "Reming's" death toll could reach over 800.

₱1-B relief aid OKd for 'Reming' victims

By Alcuin Papa and TJ Burgonio

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO DECLARED A state of national calamity yesterday as the death toll from "Reming" was expected to exceed 1,000, most of them in villages in Albay crushed by boulders and mud loosened from the slopes of Mt. Mayon by the heavy rains spawned by the supertyphoon.

As many as 31 villages of 14,871 residents were hit by the mud flows, according to the Red Cross.

Power, communications and water still remained out of service in most of Bicol, further hampering rescue and relief efforts, but tales of tragedy and loss abounded.

The President's declaration would allow the government to speed up the release of funds needed to bolster search and rescue efforts and help several provinces recover from Reming.

Ms Arroyo has authorized the Department of Budget and Management to release P1 billion for relief and rehabilitation efforts.

"All resources of the government will continue to be mobilized without letup as we pin hope against hope on the search of survivors," she said in a statement.

Budget Secretary Rolando Andaya said the President had dispatched him to Bicol to assess the damage "so we will know the resources needed for relief and rehabilitation."

Glen Rabonza, executive officer of the National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC), said the declaration of a state of national calamity would also

STATE A4

'I couldn't believe it was my son'

By Joanna Los Baños and Ephraim Aguilar
Inquirer Southern Luzon

LEGAZPI CITY—AS FLOODWATERS unleashed by Supertyphoon "Reming" swept her village, Sally Buenaobra, 26, embraced her 2-year-old son before sending him off to her mother's house, thinking he would be safe there. It was to be their last embrace.

Interviewed at a funeral parlor here, Sally said the place where she was staying was collapsing and she thought that her son would be safer with her mother.

After Reming passed, Sally went to check on the boy.

"I was shocked to see my mother's house gone," she said between sobs. She was told her son's body had been seen floating in Albay Gulf.

"I couldn't believe it was my son because his eyes were wide open. ... Later, I realized it was really him," said Sally whose husband was in Manila at the time.

'COULDN'T A11

DPWH, Phivolcs blamed for deaths

By TJ Burgonio and Michael Lim Ubac

WITH POSSIBLY MORE THAN 1,000 people dead in the wake of Supertyphoon "Reming," the finger-pointing has begun.

And the fingers were trained on the Department of Public Works and Highways and the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs).

Distraught Guinobatan Mayor Juan Garcia blamed the DPWH's dredging project in his town for the deaths of more than 300 residents.

"I have to be frank about it. This would not have happened had the DPWH not dredged the area there," he told Sen. Richard Gordon during a brief meeting near the town plaza on Saturday. "The barangay officials had objected to it and tried to stop it, but to no avail. We would not have had such a huge casualty (figure) in Maipon."

As a result of the dredging in an area called Masnalla, Maipon became the catch basin of mudflows and floodwaters when Reming battered Bicol on Thursday, the mayor said.

"We will investigate that," said Gordon, chair of the Philippine National Red Cross.

Gordon said Phivolcs and the Red Cross had warned the people about the mudflows before the typhoon hit the region.

Aboard an Air Force helicopter Saturday, one could see the black

DPWH A11

Cha-cha train starts chugging in House

By Michael Lim Ubac

THERE'S NO STOPPING THE Charter change (Cha-cha) express.

Before dusk today, members of the House of Representatives will convene with a single overriding agenda in mind—the abolition of the presidential form of government to pave the way for the adoption of a parliamentary system with a unicameral legislature.

The administration's allies will begin the process by amending the House rules, deleting the second sentence in Section 105 of Rule 15 that indicates separate votes on Charter amendments in the House of Representatives and the Senate, Congress leaders told the Inquirer yesterday.

The sentence reads: "The adoption of resolutions proposing amendments to or revision of the Constitution shall follow the procedure for the enactment of bills."

The next move will be the convening of Congress into a constituent assembly (Con-ass), possibly on Wednesday, according to House officials.

Sorsogon Rep. Francis Escudero vowed to mount a "last stand" against Charter change by seeking to postpone the floor debate and focus attention on urgent measures to help victims of Supertyphoon "Reming" in Bicol.

"We will fight to the end," said Escudero, leader of the minority bloc that twice bungled moves in Congress the past year to im-

CHA-CHA TRAIN A6

Con-ass won't stop political dynasties

By Amando Doronila

ANALYSIS

WHETHER THE LAST ADMINISTRATION blitzkrieg to ram through in Congress on Dec. 6 a constituent assembly as the mode for Charter change succeeds or not, it is certain that it will not produce a political earthquake that will dislodge the dynasties from its domination of the country's political life.

A defeat of the final big push for Con-ass not only ends the Arroyo administration's project of engineering a historic shift from the presidential to parliamentary system. It also sends the country

CONSTITUENT A7



PROTEST ART

A woman bound with rope sculpted by artist Liza Chio Cruz is among the 184 art works in "Tanod Karapatan," an exhibit by different artists with themes focusing on human rights violations and political killings, at the Boston Gallery in Cubao, Quezon City.

SUBIC RAPE CASE

4 American Marines face judgment today

By Tarra V. Quismundo and Nikko Dizon

AFTER A YEAR MARKED BY emotion-packed hearings, a historic rape case comes to a close today, with the verdict—"guilty" or "not guilty"—likely to take political reverberations beyond the courtroom of a media-shy judge.

On the line is the fate of five people in their 20s—four US Marines and their Filipino accuser known to the nation only by her pseudonym Nicole—whose lives were unexpectedly intertwined by a one-night fling inside a crowded nightclub at Subic Bay Freeport.

When Regional Trial Court Judge Benjamin Pozon slams down his gavel at approximately 1 p.m. to open today's session at the old Makati City Hall, he will be in the midst of history.

The case marks the first time American servicemen will have been tried in a Philippine court under the Visiting Forces Agreement governing the status of US soldiers in this country.

The trial has also been viewed as a test of the long-standing ties between the two countries.

Police have laid down heavy security measures to curb any violence during expected protest actions around the courthouse.

On trial are Lance Corporals Daniel Smith, Keith Silkwood and Dominic Duplantis and Staff Sgt. Chad Carpentier.

Nicole had accused Smith of raping her inside a moving van at Subic before midnight on Nov. 1, 2005, while the others supposedly cheered Smith on.

The Americans have denied the accusation, with Smith telling the court that what happened between him and Nicole was an act by mutual agreement.

All that US Embassy spokesperson Matthew Lussenhop would say when reached by the Inquirer was: "We are waiting for tomorrow, like everyone else."

"We presented witnesses who saw what happened prior to and after the actual rape which corroborated the testimony of Nicole," said Evalyn Ursua, the complainant's private lawyer.

"For me, that is a basis to say that we've established our case

AMERICAN A8

Second FRONTPAGE

Possible SC app't draws mixed reviews

By Michael Lim Ubac, TJ Burgonio and Leila B. Salaverria

WITH JEERS AND CHEERS.

This was how lawmakers greeted what appeared to be the imminent appointment of Supreme Court Senior Associate Justice Reynato Puno as the next Chief Justice.



PUNO

Well-respected

Most senior

Gung-ho

Only Miriam

Soldiers registering for polls in droves

By Joey A. Gabieta
Inquirer Visayas

Fresh $250-M ADB loan to boost RP fundamentals

By Doris C. Dumlao

Terror tip worth $750 to 2 boys

[illegible]

Asean caring community? GMA faces tough sell



A pinch of salt

Correction

A sham

Economic gains



Docs say Mike Arroyo angioplasty successful


ARROYO

Follow-up test

Not a major vessel

Team of doctors

Heart's delight diet

Asean chiefs' spouses to have own full schedule

By Irene R. Sino Cruz
Inquirer Visayas

CEBU CITY—FOR THE FIRST TIME in the history of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) summits, a series of activities is being mounted specially for the spouses of the heads of state and other dignitaries. Cebu is putting on a two-day extravaganza featuring its festivals, culture and world-class products.

On Dec. 11, the spouses will go to a barrio fiesta-themed lunch to be highlighted by a 15-minute reenactment of the Battle of Mactan and a cultural show at the Mactan Shrine in Lapu-Lapu City.

Later in the evening, they will attend a serenata, parada, tertulia (serenade, parade, formal dinner) with the theme, "Pasko sa Sugbo" at the Malacañang sa Sugbo at Pier 1. The entertainers will include pianist Ingrid Sala Santamaria, the Cebu City children's choir, the [illegible] dancers of Barangay [illegible] (to highlight Cebu as a marine sanctuary), the [illegible] the Zapatas and Fraternal Quintet, three Cebuano songbirds, and Madridejos town folks who will perform a dance of the [illegible].

On Dec. 12, the spouses will be brought to the Asean Friendship Grove at the [illegible] Park in Barangay [illegible], Cebu City, for the unveiling of the Asean bamboo-shaped sculpture by Cebuano artist Raymund Fernandez. The sculpture is valued at P500,000.

This will be followed by a trip through Cebu's history dubbed "Lang-lang sa Sugbo (Roaming in Cebu)." The dignitaries' spouses, riding in air-conditioned buses, will take a 5-km trip from the provincial capitol to Magellan's Cross. Throughout the journey, they will be regaled by a live [illegible] of Cebu through the years, street performances and the traditional Sinulog.

Then it's back to the provincial capitol for lunch and a fashion show featuring Cebu-made designer clothes and accessories.

Cha-cha train starts chugging ...

High moral ground

Subverting people's will

'People are fed up'

Quorum

Naming of next Chief Justice tied to Con-ass

Landmark case

Moral influence

'Tipping point?'

Bicameral vote

Constituent assembly plan won't stop political dynasties

Breakaway from tradition

Dynastic profile

None from private sector





4 American Marines face judgment today

The last word

Controversial VFA

No end in sight

Nicole's trauma

Securing the parties

HIGHLIGHTS OF EVIDENCE PRESENTED DURING THE SUBIC RAPE TRIAL

	Prosecution	Defense

Breast-feeding backers step up fight vs comm'l greed

By Christian V. Esguerra

Objective

Morality

Latest supporters

Follow conscience

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Monday, December 4, 2006

'Abu may own jungle but AFP rules the night'

By the book

Not isolated

Clearinghouse

Reds take break to help victims of Typhoon 'Reming'

Avoid pilferage

Poor peasants

DPWH, Phivolcs blamed for deaths

'Worse than Milenyo'

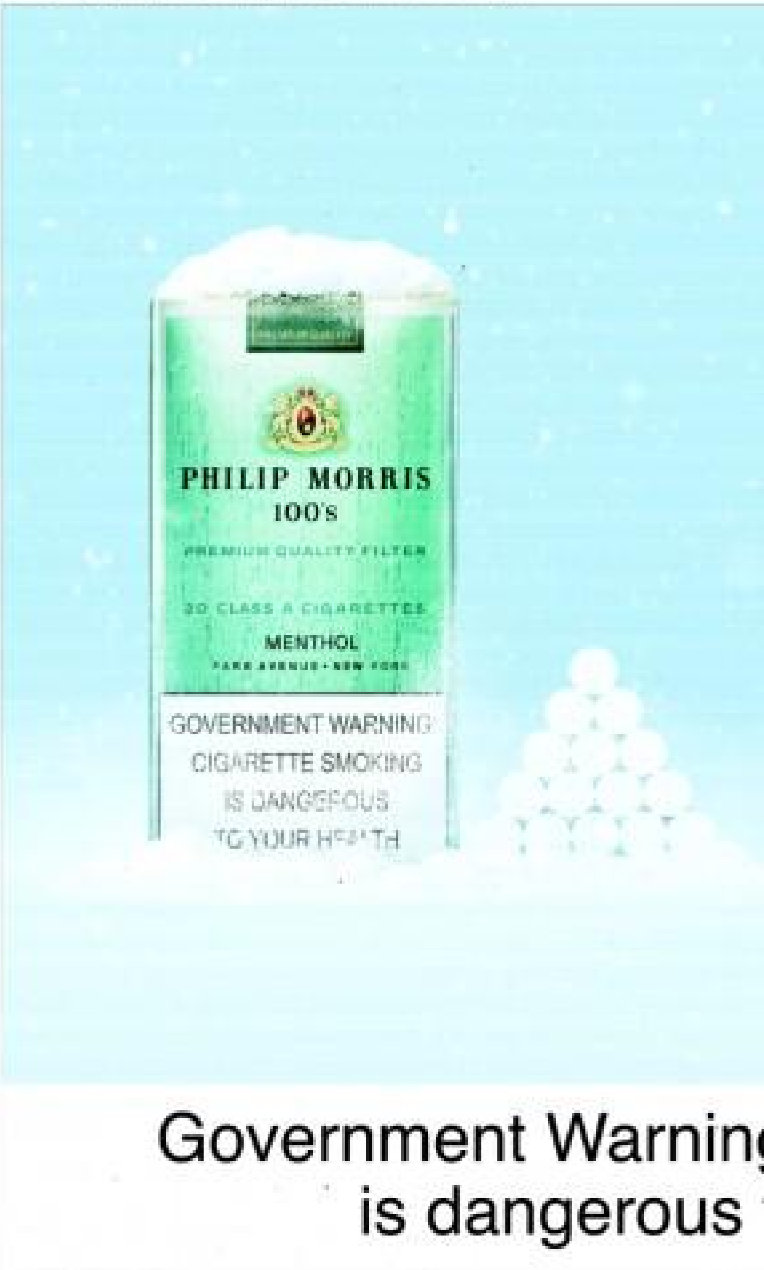
Phivolcs should explain

Lethal combination

'I couldn't believe it was my son'

Tsunami scares Albay folk





State of national calamity



P12-B emergency fund

2 foreigners missing

90% of homes damaged

C-130 sorties

Rescue teams

Food, water, clothing

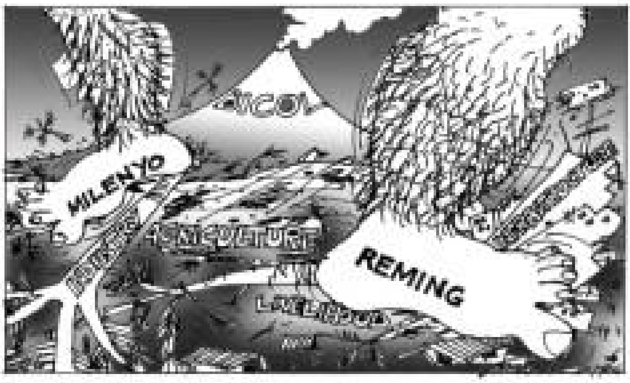
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Opinion

Daylight luminous

EDITORIAL

THE JUDICIARY IS NOT ONLY "THE LEAST dangerous" branch; the chief justice is also the weakest of the heads of the coordinate branches of government. Unlike the Cabinet or the various leadership caucuses in Congress, the Supreme Court is truly a collegial body. And unlike the president, the Senate president or the speaker of the House, the chief justice is merely first among equals.

[illegible]



Bicameral gov't still the best for us

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

[illegible]

Devil to pay

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

[illegible]

The JBC on the dock

Sounding Board



Fr. Joaquin G. Bernas, S.J.

An art it has become

Kris-Crossing Mindanao



Antonio J. Montalvan II

Frustrated idealists

The Long View



Manuel L. Quezon III

What NGOs mean to our country

Commentary

Sixto Donato C. Macasaet

They Said

Why

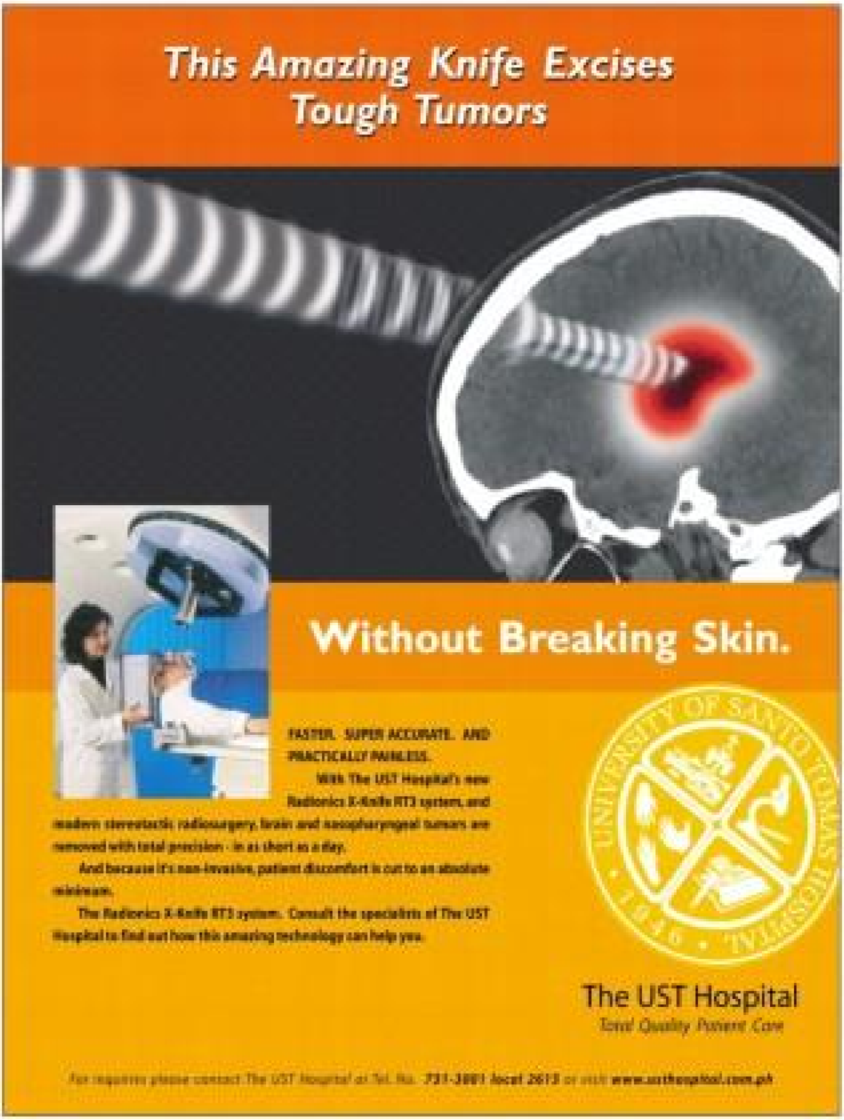
American arrogance has no place in RP

LETTERS

A victory not worth the joy of Filipinos

Know your government





Studes demand refund of illegal fees

By Marlon Alexander Luistro

[illegible]

Slow response

[illegible]

'Illegal' memorandum

[illegible]

Increase rates

[illegible]

NCR highest tuition

[illegible]

Across the NATION

Guimaras fishers to get paid for lost income

NUEVA VALENCIA, GUIMARAS—SUN-BURNT and wrinkled from years at sea, fisherman Filomino Galve, who has been making his living from the riches of the Guimaras waters for 34 years, will get P12,000 for being deprived of income the past three months. His wife Myrna, a shellfish gatherer, will get P3,580.

2nd in the Philippines: Ifugao execs pass reproductive health law

Cultural dimension

'Polvoron' downs 31 pupils







Governor sees classroom shortage in Camarines Sur after supertyphoon



S. Leyte sends search, rescue team to Albay

Local gov'ts urged to check spread of coconut pests

2 held for Cotabato judge slay

COTABATO CITY—Police arrested two suspects in the killing of Regional Trial Court Judge Adoree Dikingan here on Saturday.

City police chief Senior Supt. Pedro Macaraeg identified the suspects as Samsudin Abas, 22, of Barangay Bagua, Sharif Aguak, Maguindanao, and Rasmin Manan Acdo, 30, of Sultan Kudarat, Sharif Kabunsuan.

Abas, who claimed to be a farmer, and Acdo, a jeepney driver, denied involvement in the crime during police interrogation at Precinct 2.

The two were arrested minutes after Dikingan and his wife Lala were fired upon by two motorcycle-riding men along [illegible] street.

The victims were aboard an Isuzu van on their way home from a downtown grocery when they were attacked.

Abas said that when policemen pursued him, he ran for fear of being summarily executed.

"I am innocent," he said.

"I was driving my brother Datu's motorbike when police cornered me," he said. Charlie C. Señase, Inquirer Mindanao







Republic of the Philippines
11th Judicial Region
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
Branch 16, Davao City

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION FOR CORPORATE REHABILITATION AND FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE REHABILITATION PLAN OF ALL ASIABANK CORPORATION FORMERLY COMMUNITY THRIFT BANK (DAVAO), INC.

ALL ASIABANK DEPOSITORS ASSOCIATION, INC.,
Petitioner.

STAY ORDER

Duterte changes mind again on aerial sprays



TAMA NA ANG BUNONG-BRASO.
Set aside partisan politics.



MAG-KAPIT BISIG NA TAYO.
Serve the people's interest.
Sana'y magkasundo na ang Kongreso at
Senado para maisulong ang pagbabago.



Go for Charter Change.

NASA CHA-CHA ANG PAG-ASA!

MELCHORA

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

City lacks facilities for HIV testing

Concern

Cooperation

SPORTS



[illegible caption]

PCSO Lotto

EZ2: 13 2
Suertres: 7 5 3 | 3 2 6
SUPERLOTTO 6/49: 6 9 15 19 34 45
P9,896,268.60



Gin Kings take No. 1 position

[illegible]





"A five-supplier meeting without going to five places. Gusto ko ganyan ka-efficient."



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A plus **METRO**
Editor Ester G. Dipasupil

Still no classes at Makati high school

City official says she's still waiting for go-signal from cleanup team



STILL KING OF THE ROAD
An Inquirer reader, Teodoro G. Santiago of Sta. Ana, Manila, has complained about heavy traffic on Lambingan Bridge which he blamed on undisciplined public utility drivers. His text message to Metro Citizen's Call went: "Jeepneys plying the Sta. Ana-Pasig-Taft route pick up passengers at the foot of Lambingan Bridge causing abnormal heavy traffic. They do it in the middle of the road."

By Tarra V. Quismundo

AS EXPERTS HAVE YET TO RESOLVE whether it would be safe to reopen the school, classes will remain suspended at San Isidro National High School in Makati City at least until tomorrow, the city schools division chief said yesterday.

Makati school division superintendent Elena Ruiz said that classes would be canceled until Tuesday at the public high school which has been closed since Nov. 28 after chemicals spilled inside its laboratory.

"The school would remain closed on Monday and Tuesday and we might resume classes on Wednesday. That was based on the recommendation of the cleanup team. We will know for sure tomorrow whether we could reopen on Wednesday," Ruiz told the Inquirer.

Off limits

But the fourth floor of the school building, where the laboratory is located, will remain off-limits. Classes will be held only in the lower floors.

Different chemicals were spilled inside the laboratory the other Tuesday after a wall-mounted cabinet where they were kept suddenly collapsed. Police are still trying to determine what caused the incident.

Emergency workers finished cleaning up the contaminated school building on Friday as they completed the collection and removal of chemicals and other debris inside the lab.

Decontamination, however, is still ongoing as experts are expected to conduct today another test to measure toxicity levels inside and around the laboratory. The results of the first chemical level monitoring conducted by experts from the Occupational Safety and Health Center (OSHC) and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources last week have yet to be released.

Dr. Irma Macalinao, a toxicology expert from the University of the Philippines College of Medicine, however, said on Friday that chemical levels inside the lab had gone down as the source of contamination—the spilled chemicals—had been removed.

Should the school reopen this week, Ruiz said they might hold makeup classes for at least five Saturdays so that students could catch up on their lessons.

Nine persons, including five teachers and two school guards, were hospitalized after being exposed to the spilled chemicals.

Workers from the Makati and Pasay Rescue teams and the Bureau of Fire Protection's Special Rescue Unit worked together to complete the tedious cleanup that took almost six days.

A life well lived behind the wheel

By Candy Fabrecoueta-Dollson
Contributor

[illegible]

Of course, life was much simpler in the old days, says Charles Calima, 71, who worked as a jeepney driver for over 50 years in La Union before retiring and moving to the big city.

[illegible]

Family was inspiration

[illegible]



MANG Charlie with his wife, Nita and their sons—Edwin, Edmund and Juanito—during a family outing in Lingayen Gulf in the 1970s. Mang Charlie was fond of taking his family on trips during weekends. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

[illegible]

No complaints

[illegible]



MANG Charlie started driving when he was only 17. Now 71, he still goes behind the wheel every now and then.

Charles Calima and wife Nita successfully raised their seven children, relying solely on his earnings as a jeepney driver

[illegible]

NBI manhunt on for 5 Tondo gang members

By Margaux C. Ortiz



DOG'S DAY OUT

A life well lived behind the wheel



Good man

Police statistics show one person killed every 2 days

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

METROBRIEFS

Man dead in mishap

Seminar schedule

Citizen's call

DID YOU KNOW

Environmentalist to vie for Canada's top job



Poisoned too over shared secret



Ailing Castro misses b'day celebrations

In US, $2-a-week burial insurance survives skeptics



CLAUDE JADE: 58

Millionaire president seen winning in Madagascar



Fiji commander says he'll stage coup within hours



Few witnesses, little comprehension in forest where USSR died



India train crushed by old bridge

Georgia solon's wife battles deportation order

Chavez rides Venezuela's economic boom



The World



3 car bomb attacks kill 51 in Baghdad

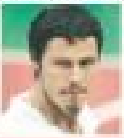
BAGHDAD—MORE THAN 50 PEOPLE WERE KILLED AS A TRIPLE car bomb attack rocked the center of the Iraqi capital on Saturday, in a gruesome reminder of similar bombings in a Shiite district of Baghdad the previous week.

US forces kill 6 rebs, 2 women, child

Rumsfeld urged major adjustment in Iraq strategy



RUMSFELD



WHAT'S INSIDE

■ Safin tows Russia to 2-1 Davis Cup lead/A35

SPORTS

Editor Teddyvic E. Melendres



15TH ASIAN GAMES

Dionisio, Molina fail to deliver

Payla clinches q'final berth

By Teddyvic E. Melendres
Sports Editor

DOHA, QATAR—THE HAZARDS of competing against some of the world's toughest athletes exacted a heavy toll on the Philippine campaign on the third day of 15th Asian Games here as Filipinos took a beating on all but two fronts.

Mamiit and Co. get going today

DOHA, QATAR—WORLD-RANKED FILIPINO-AMERican aces Cecil Mamiit and Eric Taino team up with Johnny Arcilla and PJ Tierro as the dark horse Philippine squad opens its campaign in the expectedly tough men's team competition in tennis in the 15th Asian Games here today.

RP Schedule Dec. 4



Dionisio, Molina fail to deliver



DOHA MEDAL TALLY

SPORTSWATCH

Koi Village makes it seven straight

Cavite Int'l Derby up today



TOP SMASHERS



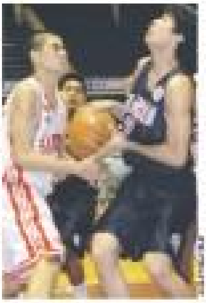
DESAMITO

YAKULT RACE

Desamito outruns Sabal

NCR XI bags Under-19 football crown

Lanky pair helps Archers sweep elimination round



Real Spicy keeps hot form

Borboran grabs PBL weekly honors







Heat, Jazz claim last-gasp wins



MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE—JAMES POSEY HIT A THREE-pointer from 26 feet at the buzzer to give the Miami Heat a 98-97 win over the Grizzlies on Saturday night at Memphis, Tennessee.

[illegible]

Nets 112, 76ers 107

[illegible]

Raptors 103, Knicks 100

[illegible]

Spurs 108, Kings 98

[illegible]

Bulls 112, Wizards 94

[illegible]

Bucks 115, Warriors 110

[illegible]

Beach volley pair gets lift from crowd

[illegible]

Learn to fight, coach tells NBA prospect Li

[illegible]



Weightlifter sets new world record at Asiad

[illegible]



Safin tows Russia to 2-1 Davis Cup lead

Cotto nails WBA title; Margarito triumphs

Boom Boom erases smile of clowning Andrade in 4

TAMPA, FLORIDA—TOP Filipino prospect Rey "Boom Boom" Bautista kept his unbeaten record with a smashing fourth-round technical knockout victory over Brazilian Giovanni Andrade yesterday in their scheduled 12-rounder at the St. Pete Times Forum here.



BOOM Boom Bautista (left) staggers Giovanni Andrade with a solid left.

Wright proves critics wrong, beats Quartey

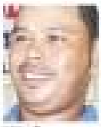


CAN'T punch, you say? Winky Wright (right) shows he can by connecting to the head of Ike Quartey.

Lacy fails to impress

SPORTS

57th Fil-Am golf reels off today



Guialon, Legaspi top Aspac golf qualifiers

BUSINESS

IN THIS ISSUE

RP likely to miss '07 growth target

THE PHILIPPINE ECONOMY IS LIKELY TO MISS THE OFFIcial growth target of 5.7 to 6.5 percent next year, owing largely to the slowdown in the economies of the United States and Japan, the country's biggest export markets.

RP GROWTH/B2

CURRENCIES

Market still has room to grow

PBCom stockholder cries no deal







RP likely to miss ...





Market still ...

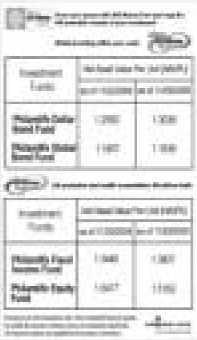
Golf with the justices

COCKTALES

Victor C. Agustin

Money go-round

Bel-Air's breakaway republic













Imports from China up 22%

By Ronnel W. Domingo

PRELIMINARY FIGURES ON MERCHANDISE trade between the Philippines and China showed that as of July imports from the mainland increased significantly while exports to the giant economy dropped slightly under the Early Harvest trading scheme started this year.

Data from the Bureau of International Trade Relations, a part of the Department of Trade and Industry, showed that imports from China grew 22 percent as of July to $2 billion, from year-ago's $1.64 billion.

Philippine exports to China for the seven-month period reached $2.33 billion, 1.6 percent lower than $2.37 billion last year.

The records cover 3,630 tariff lines of Chinese imports, mostly agricultural products but also include industrial goods such as electronics, machinery, hardware and consumer items.

The figures also cover 111 tariff lines of Philippine exports: agricultural products, minerals, garments, construction supplies and consumer items.

Still, trade officials said the figures could not yet indicate a trend that could be attributed to the EHP with China, saying the numbers did not take into account the effects of informal trading.

In April 2005, the Philippines agreed to enter into an EHP with China through a framework agreement on an Association of Southeast Asian Nations-China Comprehensive Economic Cooperation, which paves the way for the realization of an Asean-China Free Trade Area by 2010.

The EHP gives Asean members an advance low-tariff entry before the free trade agreement takes effect on condition that these markets are opened to Chinese products.

Implemented starting Jan. 1, the Philippine-China EHP covers 209 tariff lines that include plant, animal and marine products.

The Philippines was the last of the 10 Asean members to enter China's EHP.

The others have done so as early as 2004 and have cut tariffs on covered products to between 2 percent and 10 percent and agreed to remove the same tariffs in 2006.

STABLE TO POSITIVE

Credit rating upgrade seen

By Doris C. Dumlao

MOODY'S INVESTOR SERVICE MAY further raise its credit rating outlook on the Philippines from "stable" to "positive" on improved fiscal management, but only after the local elections next year, according to Banco de Oro Universal Bank.

Among the three most influential global debt watchdogs, Moody's currently has the lowest sovereign rating on the Philippines at four notches below investment grade (B1) versus Standard & Poor's three notches and Fitch Ratings' two notches below investment grade.

BDO chief market strategist Jonathan Ravelas said fiscal improvements would likely solidify in 2007 but noted that the government was facing spending pressures and political risks in line with the upcoming May 2007 elections.

"Any upgrade will most likely be after the elections," Ravelas said during last week's presentation of BDO's forecasts for 2007.

A "positive" outlook means that within 12-18 months, there is a chance of an actual upgrade in sovereign credit rating, defined as an opinion on the ability and willingness of a government to meet its debt obligations in full and on time.

Moody's improved its outlook on the Philippines to "stable" from "negative" last October.

Ravelas said the country was benefiting from higher revenues and lower expenses as well as declining risk premiums.

He projected that the Philippines would post a gross domestic product (GDP) growth of 5.5 percent this year and 5.75-6 percent next year.

GDP, the most important economic indicator monitored by the financial markets, refers to the total amount of goods and services produced by the domestic economy.

"The correction in global oil prices and the appreciating peso provided a boost to the local economy," Ravelas said.

He said the stronger peso would likely have little negative effect on the growth, but it could dampen exports and personal consumption, especially since local consumption is partly fueled by remittances from overseas Filipino workers.

Is manufacturing growing or shrinking?

NO FREE LUNCH



Cielito F. Habito

Contradiction

Anecdotal evidence

Sampling bias?

Prices, time lags

PNOC-EDC sets ₱3.20 offer price

Geothermal producer to yield ₱13.5-16.7 billion in proceeds

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

Betting fortunes on biofuel boom

Forex savings seen rising from $167M to $389M yearly

The gated communities of Makati

QUESTIONS OF POLICIES



Cebu shipyards teaming up with Dutch company

To start producing double-hulled tankers by '08





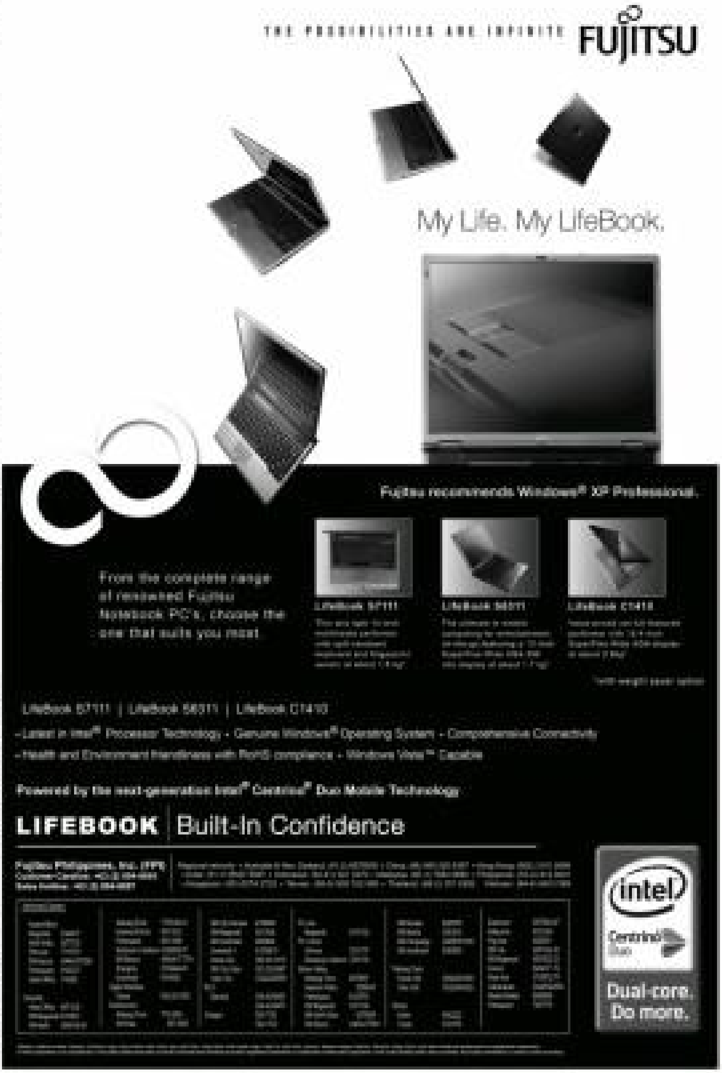
PBCom ...

Cocktales ...

Heard through the grapevine

Questions ...

Betting ...



People, Events & Products

Nokia holds thanksgiving event for Globe



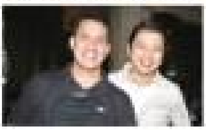












Nesvita Wellness Tour goes to malls nationwide

STI, ETELECARE SIGN MOU FOR CALL CENTER AGENT COURSE





SENATOR ROXAS LAUDS MANG INASAL



1ST ASIA-PACIFIC ACTION ALLIANCE FOR HEALTH CONFERENCE



MEDICAL AND DENTAL OUTREACH

Campaign against trafficking in persons



6CYCLEMIND GETS GOLD RECORD AWARD

Rural banks go state-of-the-art with GCash

[illegible]



PLDT, AUCTIONS.PH CONTRACT SIGNING

[illegible]

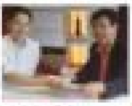
Panasonic launches newest innovations and technology

[illegible]



[illegible]

DISTRIBUTOR OF BACCHUS ENERGY DRINK



[illegible]

Avon Fashions intimate apparel shine at Bedazzled show

[illegible]

DONATION TO ANAHAWAN DISTRICT HOSPITAL



[illegible]



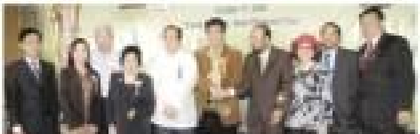
MAPUA HIGH SCHOOL DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDEES FOR 2006

[illegible]

ENERVON C'RUP'S ENERGY SPREADS HAPPINESS



[illegible]



3RD CUP AWARD FOR THE ASTRA GROUP INC

[illegible]

Hands On Manila bags Award of Excellence in regional PR tilt

[illegible]

Michael V is back with The Bubble G Anthology

[illegible]

Business

Deal with BPC ended in '02, says Mirant

Asean leaders to sign 7 pacts

Deal on nursing services important to RP

DBP to fund start-up OFW ventures

FirstGen eyes projects in Middle East

BUSINESS Monday



Central banker bids adieu

Governor Rafael B. Buenaventura 1938-2006


BUENAVENTURA

CENTRAL BANKING HAS been described as the art of throwing a party—a metaphor for economic activity—and suddenly taking away the punchbowl just as the guests start to get tipsy.




THE IMF called Buenaventura a "pillar of stability."



InfoTech

Shop gets a boost from online Romeos

E-COMMERCE RETAILING HAS PUSHED UP SALES OF PHILIPPINE Cut Flower Corp. by more than 30 percent this year, as more online Romeos found it convenient to click their way into their loved ones' hearts by sending fresh flowers through the worldwide web.

Loyalty program

New products



Greenhouse

HP first to launch business desktop with Intel® vPro technology

Getting to know more about gadgets



Smarter smartphone launched

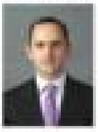


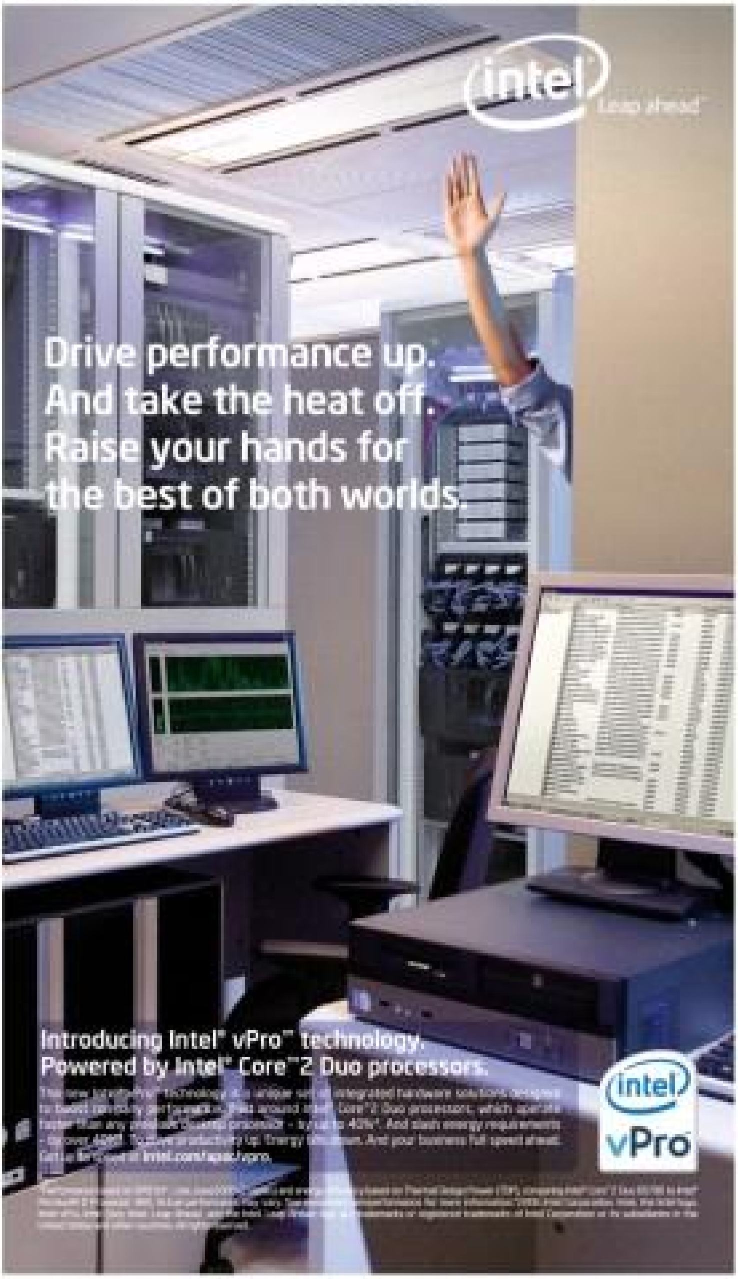
TREO 680

Central . . .

Managing diversity of competencies

Money in the Bank





BUSINESS Monday

Managing diversity of competencies

MAPping the Future



Manuel V. Pangilinan

Path to competitiveness

Building on strengths

Our future

IN THIS ISSUE

- **Taste and culture** in Taguig foodfest /D4
- **Otoniel Gonzaga** concert Dec. 9 /D2

LIFESTYLE



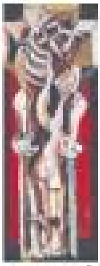
MONDAY ARTS & BOOKS ■ TUESDAY FITNESS ■ WEDNESDAY 2BU

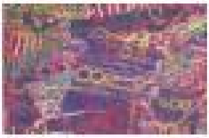

ARTURO Luz's work gets Christie's spotlight

Christie's auction shows the promise of Philippine art

An early Luz work featured on the cover of the catalogue is sold for double the estimate

STORY ON PAGE D2









Christie's auction shows the promise of Philippine art







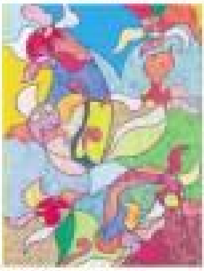


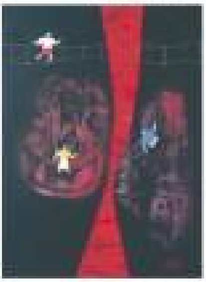


From the ethnic to the universal









PLAYFUL art. (Clockwise from top) Farley del Rosario's "Playstation"; Yveese Belen's "Playground" 2; Del Rosario's "High Five"; and Belen's "Playground" 4.

Yveese Belen and Farley del Rosario at 1/of Gallery

"PLAY STATION," a collection of works by young artists Yveese Belen and Farley del Rosario, is on exhibit at 1/of Gallery, 2/F Serendra, Fort Bonifacio Global City.

The show features oil and acrylic on canvas, available in limited-edition giclee prints.

While both artists favor the naif, each have distinct styles that have been well-lauded.

Belen, twice an Art Winner, [illegible] (Grand prize in 2000 and honorable mention in 2003), also received the [illegible] Award for excellence in the field of visual arts when she graduated from University of Santo Tomas.

Belen's faceless, straight-legged figures are often seen gathered around [illegible] or traipsing along ladders, the marks and swags created by a scratching technique staple in her artworks.

Belen is in London, where she often visits the Tate Modern.

The steadily growing popularity of Del Rosario's art has landed him the honor of being commissioned by the Philippines Yearbook 2006 to provide the illustrations for the essays of [illegible], [illegible] Pascual Jr., and National Artist [illegible] Joaquin.

His fans are charmed by his fondness for patterns, among them circular groupings that either become clouds, [illegible] upholstery and floor designs, or paisley trees and [illegible] elements, which elicit childlike wonder, the same that emanates from his lovable characters with fixed smiles and expressions that seem like stylized [illegible].

"Play Station" is on until Dec. 18, 2006. Call [illegible] or 0917-[illegible].

Visual Arts

Historical photos at Silverlens

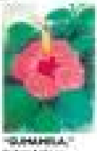
RM de Leon at Galerie 7

Tribute to Philip Victor

Dial, Roldan, Cordero at Magnet



Atelier at De las Islas



"Xenon" at Nexo-Renzo

Diaz at Artes



De Leon at Crucible

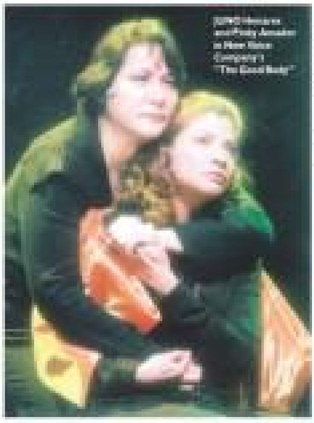


"SCROLLS of Thought"

Cabrera at Avellana

Feminist book

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2006
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER D1
LIFESTYLE



'The Sound of Music' and 'The Good Body' opened on the same day recently—and no two plays could be more different

Singing nuns and near-anorexics in one weekend

Music-making amid storm Reming

By Pablo A. Tariman
Contributor

HAVE YOU EVER wondered how a concert coordinator's routine look like on the week of the concert?

> Promoting an Oroniel Gonzaga concert on radio and TV proves an eye-opener: Audiences still love classical music



THE AUTHOR with flutist Christopher Oracion and soprano Camille Lopez-Molina



CELLIST Victor Michael Coo



PIANIST Oliver Salonga

'Merry & Famous White Christmas' showcase

Privilege card introduced

'3 Tenors' concert tonight



UST classical Christmas concert Dec. 6



RM awardee Apostol, National Artist José in UST media ethics seminar

Baguio hosts 'Aweng Paskua' choral festival

Singing nuns and near-anorexics . . .







Forthright material

Arellano Batch '54 reunion



LAMB Adobo and Kare-Kare from Abe in Serendra









SERENDRA and Market! Market! are taking part in the festival.

Cuisine-as-culture festival in Taguig

FOOD AS CULTURE and community is the message of the festival, "A Taste of the City: The Many Flavors of Taguig," on Dec. [illegible] at the Fort. The event marks the second anniversary of Taguig's cityhood.

The culinary festival will see the participation of many of Taguig's top food places, and Taguig Mayor Freddie Tinga.

Among the participating restaurants are Le Souffle, [illegible]

Meanwhile, [illegible]

Tinga said the culinary festival is Taguig's way of celebrating its culture and traditions. "Food is the best metaphor for the melting pot that is Taguig," he said. "And food is a good occasion for people to get together, as [illegible]."

Moreover, the development of the food scene in Taguig also indicates the progress achieved by the city, Tinga said. He added the city government seeks to make Taguig a world-class food and leisure destination.

The food festival will also raise funds for the Light [illegible] Foundation, which seeks to build [illegible] for the poor.

Tickets to "A Taste of the City: The Many Flavors of Taguig" are available at participating restaurants at Serendra, Market! Market!, [illegible]



SALAD at Abe



NEW skyline for Taguig

ENTERTAINMENT



Pinky Amador's life in 10 songs



PINKY AMADOR

REVIEW

INSIDE

IN REAL LIFE, PINKY AMADOR is a kooky character.

Playful candor

Imagine that



"HAPPY FEET"

Penguins top RP charts

Tyra B

VIEWFINDER



Nestor U. Torre

Kid Fit



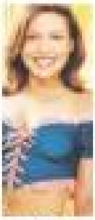
Double platinum for 'High School'

[T]yra Banks shows Rachel Ray the way

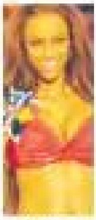
[illegible]

Concert tour

[illegible]



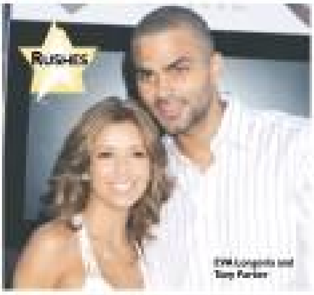
RACHEL RAY



TYRA BANKS

'Desperate' star Eva Longoria engaged

LOS ANGELES—ACTRESS Eva Longoria, who plays a divorcee on the prime time television drama "Desperate Housewives," is engaged to marry her basketball star boyfriend Tony Parker, her spokeswoman said on Thursday.



EVA Longoria and Tony Parker

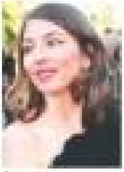
'Drunk as a skunk'


DANNY DEVITO


TAYLOR HICKS performs before the lighting of the Christmas Tree at Rockefeller Center in New York.

Certain forgiveness


MEL GIBSON


SOFIA COPPOLA has given birth in France to a baby girl named Romy, by partner Thomas Mars.


JENNIFER CONNELLY and husband Paul Bettany at a special NY screening of "Blood Diamond."

ENTERTAINMENT

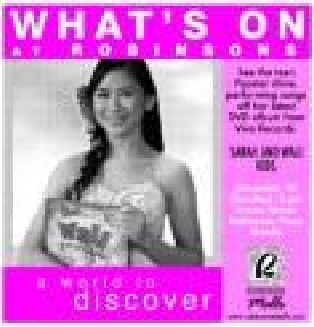
'Starstruck' is back

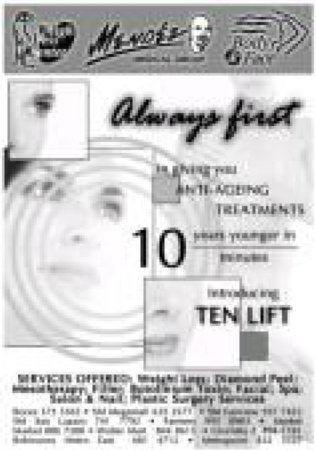
Four winners to be picked this year



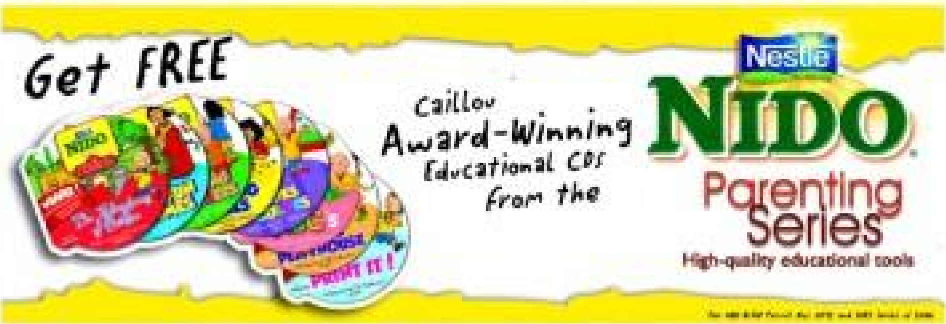
RAYMOND GUTIERREZ, DINGDONG DANTES, JOLINA MAGDANGAL

Dingdong hedges









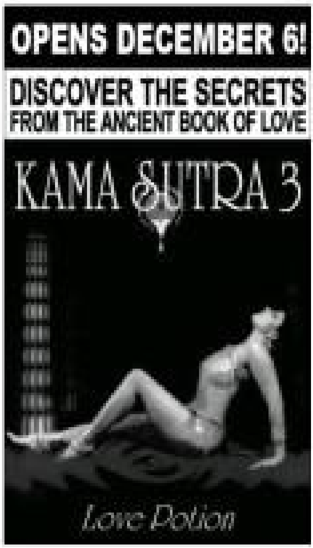


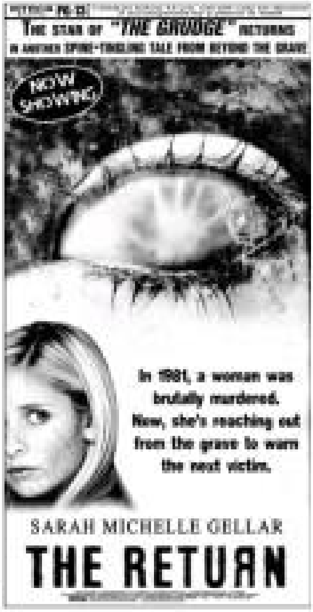


'Starstruck' . . .

From page F1





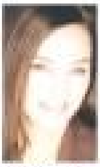




MTV Music Summit

Show Time

Rah, Sitti at Festival Mall



Tonight

December 3

December 4

December 6

December 7

December 8

December 9

December 10

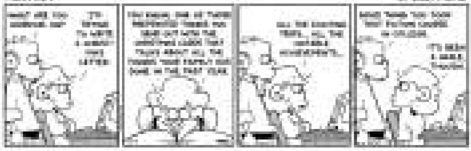
December 13



December 14

December 15

FOXTROT BY BILL AMEND



A. LIPIN BY JESS ABRERA



BABY BLUES BY JERRY SCOTT



PUGAD BABOY BY PM JUNIOR

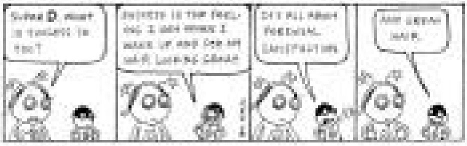


MUTTS BY PATRICK McDONNELL





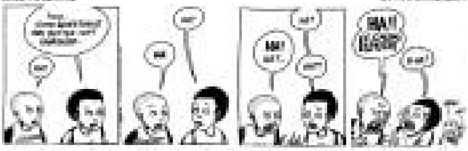
ATOMO AND WEBBY BY LYRA GARCELLANO



DIVINE COMEDY

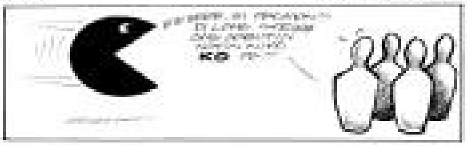


KIKO MACHINE BY MANIX ABRERA

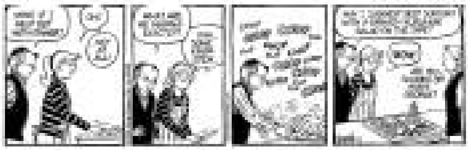


BY JOMIKE TEJIDO

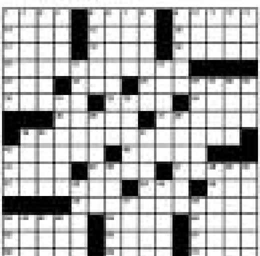




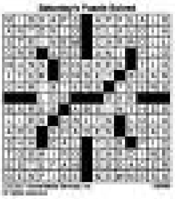
BEN BY DANIEL SHELTON



DAILY CROSSWORD



Saturday's Puzzle Solved



HOROSCOPE

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

	7			9			2	
9		8	5		3	6		1
	4						3	
	5		8		9		4	
3				6				2
	6		2		7		8	
	9						6	
8		2	6		5	4		9
	1			8			5	

Difficulty Level ★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

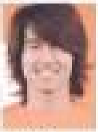
Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.
Tips and program at www.sudoku.com

Answer to previous puzzle

ROUNDUP

Williams as Roosevelt

Jerry Yan visit canceled

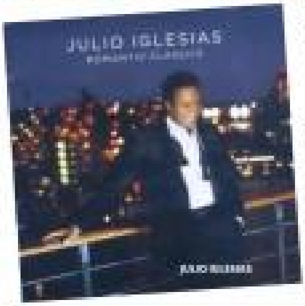


JERRY YAN



'Shock and Awe'

Julio Iglesias covers Foreigner and The Cars



REVIEW

ADOPTING DYLAN'S VIEW-point, would it be easy to appreciate a couple of CDs that might not immediately arouse our curiosity?

Pinoy factor



Moving experience

Wise decision





